

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USSS-00 EUR-25 AF-10 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /157 W
----- 051227

P 070240Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6733

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 134

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 4599

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NP, XF

SUBJECT: NEPAL PARTICIPATION IN UNEF

REF: KATHMANDU 4575

1. IN CALL AT FOREIGN MINISTRY TODAY I WAS INFORMED BY JOINT SECRETARY SHARDUL RANA THAT GON HAS DECIDED IN PRINCIPLE TO CONTRIBUTE PERSONNEL TO UNEF. ACCORDING TO RANA, GON STILL AWAITING DETAILS CONCERNING UNEF'S MISSION, ITS COMPOSITION, EQUIPMENT AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT.

2. RANA SEEMED TO REGARD SIZE OF PROPOSED CONTINGENT (500 MEN) AS LARGE. HE NOTED THAT TOTAL STRENGTH OF NEPALESE ARMY IS ESTIMATED TO BE ABOUT 20,000 AND REFERRED TO NEPAL'S NEED FOR ARMY IN LIGHT OF ITS OWN INTERNAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS. RANA ALSO INFORMED ME THAT GON INTENDS TO ASSIGN A MILITARY LIAISON OFFICER TO ITS UN MISSION IN ORDER PROVIDE BETTER FLOW OF INFORMATION WHICH GON NEEDS TO MAKE FINAL DECISION.

3. JOINT SECRETARY UN AFFAIRS BHATT EARLIER TOLD DCM THAT NEPALESE ARMY WAS IN PROCESS OF SELECTING FOUR 125-MAN COMPANIES
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FOR UNEF. LIKE RANA, HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT SIZE OF

CONTRIBUTION AND COMMENTED ON POSSIBLE LONG PERIOD IN WHICH TROOPS MIGHT HAVE TO REMAIN IN MIDDLE EAST. HE NOTED THAT PAST NEPALESE EXPERIENCE WITH UN FORCES LIMITED TO PROVISION OF HANDFUL OF OFFICERS IN LEBANESE CRISIS OF 1958 AND FOR UNIPOM IN 1965.

4. IN VIEW LIKELIHOOD GON WILL PARTICIPATE IN UNEF, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INCLUDED AS INFO ADDRESSEE ON APPROPRIATE MESSAGES CONCERNING RECRUITMENT AND ORGANIZATION OF UNEF. CARGO

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30 JUN 2005

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